10/538313 JC20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 1 3 JUN 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT:

WIMMROITHER, W. ET AL-1

PCT NO.:

PCT/AT2003/000318

FILED:

OCTOBER 22, 2003

TITLE:

PROTECTIVE CAP FOR A CONTACT PIPE IN A WELDING

TORCH IN ADDITION TO A WELDING TORCH EQUIPPED WITH

SAID CAP

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP PCT

Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to the initial Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 5 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.